

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 28, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

Meanwhile, the computer filters each interval of one period of the original speech data and thereby generates the pitch data (step S4). In step S4, it is desirable that the computer performs the filtering of one interval of the original speech data by adjusting a timing so that components other than the center frequency and vicinity thereof are substantially eliminated, the center frequency being obtained as the moving correction average which is determined in Step [[3]] S3 by using the value of frequency in this said interval as the latest measured value. In step S4, when the moving correction average obtained by using the value of frequency of one interval of the original data as the latest measured value is not calculated, all the components of this same interval of the original speech data are cut off. It is desirable that the pass bandwidth of the filtering in step S4 is smaller than double the center frequency.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 28 and 29 with the following amended paragraph:

Subsequently, the computer generates data (hereinafter referred to as the gain adjustment data) representing a value obtained by filtering a value obtained by assigning the absolute value of the pitch data determined in Step [[4]] S4 to a linear function (or a predetermined non-linear function) (step S5). The characteristic of the filtering performed in step S5 is such that the signal-to-noise ratio of an output speech data outputted in step [[6]] S6 as described below can be higher than a desired value, for example. Thus, the characteristic is experimentally determined by performing experiments.